

REMARKS

Some claims were rejected for minor informalities and have been amended accordingly.

Claims 10-21 and 31-44 are allowed.

Claims 5 and 26 are cancelled.

In the Examiner's Response to Arguments, the Examiner states in the first full paragraph on page 6 of the Final Office Action mailed April 18, 2006:

"Scholder discloses a movement tracking mechanism (320) that uses a trackball (322) to determine position and a user position tracking mechanism (330) that uses a touchpad (220) to determine position. The accuracy of the touchpad is greater than that of the trackball, therefore when the user decides (determines) to use the touchpad, it has been decided that the accuracy of the trackball is not sufficient and the touchpad is used instead..." (emphasis added). Therefore, based upon the Examiner's interpretation, Scholder requires a human being (in the form of a user) to determine the "accuracy of the first tracking information". It is the user that then makes the decision to switch from using the trackball to using the touchpad when the user determines that the accuracy of the trackball is not sufficient.

Accordingly, claims 1, 22, and 31 have been amended to clarify that the invention is carried out by a microcontroller. More specifically, claim 1 recites:

A method for operating a pointing device in a low power manner, comprising:
receiving first tracking information from a first tracking device;
periodically determining accuracy of the first tracking information by a microcontroller; and
activating and using a second tracking device to acquire second tracking information when said determining indicates the accuracy of the first tracking information is inadequate, wherein the first tracking device

Therefore, for at least the reasons stated above, the Applicants' believe that claim 1 is not anticipated by Scholder and respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 22 recites the same limitations as claim 1, albeit as computer program product and is also believed to be allowable for at least the reasons stated above for claim 1.

All dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.


A number of claims were rejected as being obvious over Scholder in view of Liu that, in view of the arguments above, adds nothing to the primary reference that in any combination would render the rejected claims unpatentable. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the obviousness type rejections thereof.

CONCLUSION

Applicants' believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

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